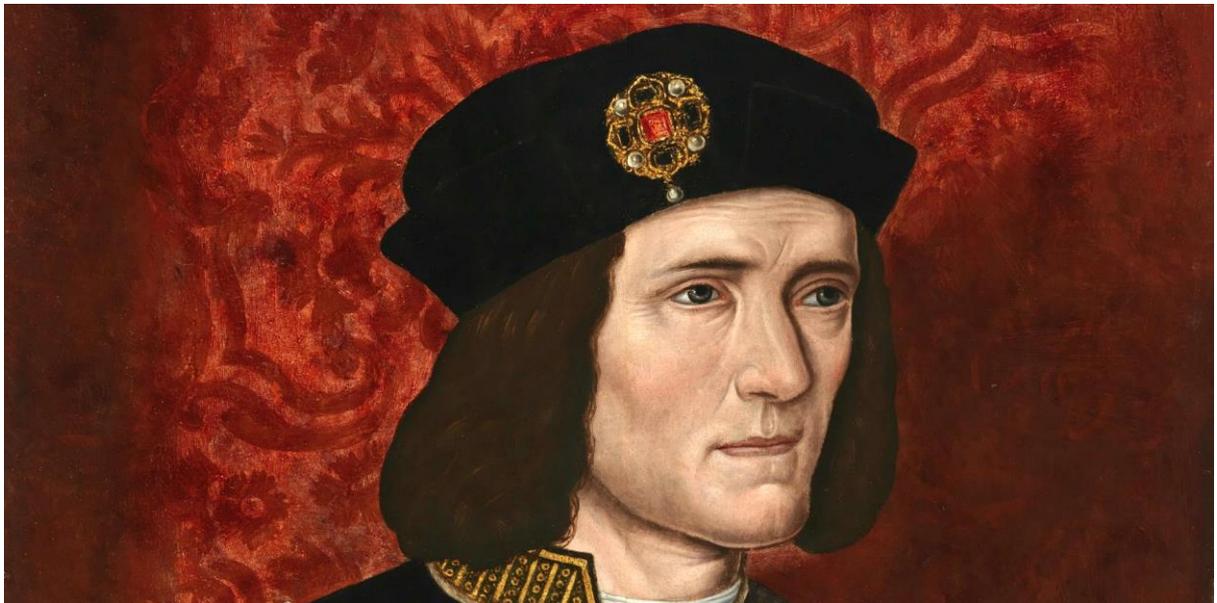


**Summer Term 2**

**Year 8**



**Richard III**

## **Week-by-Week Summary**

**Every week, you need to:**

- ✓ **Complete a reading task. For some of the activities, there will be a presentation attached to Insight, which has been recorded by an English teacher to help you complete the task.**
- ✓ **Complete a writing task.**

**You should aim to spend 3 hours a week on the reading and writing tasks.**

**Aim to read for at least 30 minutes a day.**

**Email any work to your English teacher. You can attach work written on a computer or take a photo of any written work completed in the exercise book provided.**

**Week One - Shakespeare and his life**

**Week Two - Plot, Character and Themes**

**Week Three - Richard's Opening Speech**

**Week Four – Anne and Richard**

**Week Five – Richard and the Princes**

**Week Six – Richard's Plotting**

**Week Seven – Richard's Dream**

**Week Eight – The Ending**

## Week One – Shakespeare and his life

**Reading Task:** Read the following information from the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) about Shakespeare's life. Underline key information, such as dates, places and names.

Then, answer the following 10 questions:

1) What year was Shakespeare born?
2) What were the first names of his parents?
3) What is a hornbook?
4) Name two subjects Shakespeare would have studied at school.
5) Write down two other things you learnt about Shakespeare's childhood and school days.
6) What was the name of Shakespeare's wife?
7) What did Robert Greene call Shakespeare in 1592?
8) How many plays are included in Shakespeare's first folio?
9) What happened to theatres in 1593?
10) When did Shakespeare die?

## **Shakespearean Villains**

**You now need to watch the presentation attached to Insight on Shakespearean Villains.**

**Answer the following questions:**

- 1) What is a villain?**
  
- 2) Name two of Shakespeare's most famous villains.**
  
- 3) What is a History play? How many did Shakespeare write?**
  
- 4) When was Richard III king of England?**
  
- 5) Who defeated him and in which battle?**
  
- 6) How does Shakespeare present Richard?**
  
- 7) Why might Shakespeare have presented him in this way?**

## **Writing Task**

**Create a one-page leaflet all about Shakespeare and his works for a Year 7 class.**

**Include:**

- **Important details about Shakespeare's life**
- **Information about his plays**
- **An introduction to History Plays**
- **An Introduction to Richard III**

**Make sure your language is engaging for a younger audience and you have laid out the information in an interesting way.**

**Spend one hour creating your leaflet and then send it to your English teacher.**

## Week Two – Plot, Characters and Themes

**Reading Task: Read through the plot of Richard III from Sparknotes.com. Underline key information about the play (names, places, events) and then complete the activities underneath.**

After a long civil war between the royal family of York and the royal family of Lancaster, England enjoys a period of peace under King Edward IV and the victorious Yorks. But Edward's younger brother, **Richard (Gloucester)**, resents Edward's power and the happiness of those around him. Malicious, power-hungry, and bitter about his physical deformity, Richard begins to aspire secretly to the throne—and decides to kill anyone he has to in order to become king.

Using his intelligence and his skills of deception and political manipulation, Richard begins his campaign for the throne. He manipulates a noblewoman, **Lady Anne**, into marrying him—even though she knows that he murdered her first husband. He has his own older brother, **Clarence**, executed, and shifts the burden of guilt onto his sick older brother King Edward in order to accelerate Edward's illness and death. After King Edward dies, Richard becomes lord protector of England—the figure in charge until the elder of Edward's two sons grows up.

Next Richard kills the court noblemen who are loyal to the princes, most notably **Lord Hastings**, the Lord Chamberlain of England. He then has **Queen Elizabeth's** relatives arrested and executed. With Elizabeth and the princes now unprotected, Richard has his political allies, particularly his right-hand man, **Lord Buckingham**, campaign to have Richard crowned king. Richard then imprisons the young princes in the Tower and, in his bloodiest move yet, sends hired murderers to kill both children.

By this time, Richard's reign of terror has caused the common people of England to fear and loathe him, and he has alienated nearly all the noblemen of the court—even the power-hungry Buckingham. When rumours begin to circulate about a challenger to the throne who is gathering forces in France, noblemen defect in droves to join his forces. The challenger is the **earl of Richmond**, a descendant of a secondary arm of the Lancaster family, and England is ready to welcome him.

Richard, in the meantime, tries to consolidate his power. He has his wife, Queen Anne, murdered, so that he can marry young Elizabeth, the daughter of the former Queen Elizabeth and the dead King Edward. Though young Elizabeth is his niece,

the alliance would secure his claim to the throne. Nevertheless, Richard has begun to lose control of events, and Queen Elizabeth manages to stall him. Meanwhile, she secretly promises to marry young Elizabeth to Richmond.

Richmond finally invades England. The night before the battle that will decide everything, Richard has a terrible dream in which the ghosts of all the people he has murdered appear and curse him, telling him that he will die the next day. In the battle on the following morning, Richard is killed, and Richmond is crowned **King Henry VII**. Promising a new era of peace for England, the new king is married to young Elizabeth in order to unite the warring houses of Lancaster and York.

### Vocabulary Check

Write down the meaning of the following words (you may need to look them up in a dictionary):

<b>Malicious</b>	
<b>Deformity</b>	
<b>Manipulation</b>	
<b>Deception</b>	
<b>Alienated</b>	

What do these words suggest about Richard's character?

Multiple Choice. Circle the correct answer.

1) At the beginning of the play, who is king?

a) Richard III	b) Henry VII	c) Edward IV
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2) What does Richard aspire to become?

a) King	b) A really caring brother	c) A priest
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3) Who does Richard manipulate into marrying him?

a) Lady Jane	b) Lady Harriet	c) Lady Anne
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4) Which brother does Richard have executed?

a) Clarence	b) Edward	c) John
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5) Who does he NOT have killed?

a) The relatives of Queen Elizabeth	b) Queen Elizabeth	c) Lord Hastings
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6) Who does he imprison in the tower?

a) His mother	b) His father	c) The two young princes
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7) Who challenges Richard for the throne?

a) Earl of Richmond	b) Queen Elizabeth	c) His brother, Clarence
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8) What happens to Richard's wife, Anne?

a) Richard takes her on a lovely holiday	b) Richard has her killed so he can marry his niece, Elizabeth	c) Richard locks her in the tower and throws away the key
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9) What does Richard have the night before the final battle?

a) A terrible dream foreshadowing his downfall	b) A panic attack	c) A bath
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10) How does the play end?

a) Richard is killed in battle and Henry becomes king	b) Richard says he is really sorry and everyone forgives him	c) Richard is killed by his niece, Elizabeth
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## Family Tree

You now need to watch the presentation on Insight focused on Richard's family tree. Create a family tree in your exercise book showing how the characters link together.

## Writing Task: Themes

A theme is an idea explored in a play. Some of the themes in Richard III are power, murder and conflict.

Write the opening to a story inspired by the themes of Richard III.

It could be about:

- Someone who wants to gain power by any means possible
- A family conflict
- Manipulation
- A battle

Spend one hour planning and writing this. Aim for a page of writing. Make sure you use paragraphs, interesting words and phrases, and a mix of long and short sentences. Check for spelling, punctuation and capital letters.



## Week Three - Richard's Opening Speech

### Writing Task

At the beginning of the play, **Richard, Duke of Gloucester**, wants desperately to become king. Currently, his brother Edward is on the throne (**Edward IV**) and he has two sons, **Edward and Richard**. Richard of Gloucester also has an older brother, **George, Duke of Clarence**. All of these would currently become king before Richard. He is also very unpopular and not trusted by many of the people in his brother's court, including Edward's wife, **Queen Elizabeth**.

Your task is to write a secret letter from Richard to his friend and conspirator, Lord Buckingham. In this letter, Richard is going to outline his evil plans for taking over the throne!

You can be as imaginative as you'd like!

*My dearest Buckingham...*

*After reading this letter, please destroy it immediately as it contains my deepest, darkest thoughts. I will become king, and this is how...*

Try and include lots of interesting words and phrases, as well as the following techniques:

<b>Similes</b>	<b>Comparing two things, using 'as' or 'like'</b>
<b>Rhetorical questions</b>	<b>Asking a question for effect, one that doesn't necessarily need an answer</b>
<b>Alliteration</b>	<b>When one or more words start with the same letter</b>
<b>Imperatives</b>	<b>Command words e.g. listen, stop</b>
<b>Personification</b>	<b>Giving human characteristics to something that isn't human</b>

Check your work carefully.

### **Reading Task: Richard's Opening Speech**

**Read through Richard's opening speech from the play. Watch the presentation on Insight to help you understand the speech. As you watch the presentation, add notes around the speech. This will help you to complete the next task.**

Now is the winter of our discontent  
Made glorious summer by this sun of York;  
And all the clouds that lour'd upon our house  
In the deep bosom of the ocean buried.  
Now are our brows bound with victorious wreaths;  
Our bruised arms hung up for monuments;  
Our stern alarums changed to merry meetings,  
Our dreadful marches to delightful measures.  
Grim-visaged war hath smooth'd his wrinkled front;  
But I, that am not shaped for sportive tricks,  
Nor made to court an amorous looking-glass;  
I, that am rudely stamp'd, and want love's majesty  
To strut before a wanton ambling nymph;  
I, that am curtail'd of this fair proportion,  
Cheated of feature by dissembling nature,  
Deformed, unfinish'd, sent before my time  
Into this breathing world, scarce half made up,  
And that so lamely and unfashionable  
That dogs bark at me as I halt by them;  
Why, I, in this weak piping time of peace,  
Have no delight to pass away the time,  
Unless to spy my shadow in the sun  
And descant on mine own deformity:  
And therefore, since I cannot prove a lover,  
To entertain these fair well-spoken days,  
I am determin'd to prove a villain  
And hate the idle pleasures of these days.  
Plots have I laid, inductions dangerous,  
By drunken prophecies, libels and dreams,  
To set my brother Clarence and the king  
In deadly hate the one against the other:  
And if King Edward be as true and just  
As I am subtle, false and treacherous,  
This day should Clarence closely be mew'd up,  
About a prophecy, which says that 'G'  
Of Edward's heirs the murderer shall be.

**Answer the following questions in detail in your exercise book, using WHAT? HOW? WHY?**

**1) How does Shakespeare present Richard's feelings towards this peaceful time?**

**WHAT:** In his opening speech, Richard describes the great victory his family have won.

**HOW:** He describes how joyful this time is through the line "...". The use of \_\_\_\_\_ suggests that...

However, Richard is not joyful and this is highlighted by the line "...". The use of \_\_\_\_\_ reveals to the audience that...

**WHY:** Shakespeare has perhaps presented Richard like this because... The audience would feel...

**2) How does Shakespeare present Richard's thoughts and feelings later in the speech?**

**WHAT:** Later in the speech, Richard presents himself as an outcast in society.

**HOW:** He describes himself as "...". This implies that...

He also outlines his evil plans when he reveals "...".

The use of \_\_\_\_\_ suggests...

**WHY:** The audience now feel that... Shakespeare may have structured his speech in this way in order to...

**Extension:** Can you write one more WHAT? HOW? WHY? Paragraph exploring how Shakespeare presents Richard in this speech?

## Week Four – Anne and Richard

### Reading Task

Richard wants to consolidate his power by marrying Lady Anne, the wife of Edward, Prince of Wales, who Richard actually killed in battle!

Read the following extract from Act 1, Scene 2 where he is trying to manipulate Anne into marrying him.

Watch the presentation on Insight to help you understand this scene even more.

#### **LADY ANNE**

Villain, thou know'st no law of God nor man:  
No beast so fierce but knows some touch of pity.

#### **GLOUCESTER**

But I know none, and therefore am no beast.

#### **LADY ANNE**

O wonderful, when devils tell the truth!

#### **GLOUCESTER**

More wonderful, when angels are so angry.  
Vouchsafe, divine perfection of a woman,  
Of these supposed-evils, to give me leave,  
By circumstance, but to acquit myself.

#### **LADY ANNE**

Vouchsafe, defused infection of a man,  
For these known evils, but to give me leave,  
By circumstance, to curse thy cursed self.

#### **GLOUCESTER**

I did not kill your husband.

#### **LADY ANNE**

Why, then he is alive.

#### **GLOUCESTER**

Nay, he is dead; and slain by Edward's hand.

#### **LADY ANNE**

In thy foul throat thou liest: Queen Margaret saw  
Thy murderous falchion smoking in his blood;  
The which thou once didst bend against her breast,  
But that thy brothers beat aside the point.

#### **GLOUCESTER**

I was provoked by her slanderous tongue,  
which laid their guilt upon my guiltless shoulders.

**LADY ANNE**

Thou wast provoked by thy bloody mind.  
Which never dreamt on aught but butcheries:  
Didst thou not kill this king?

**GLOUCESTER**

I grant ye.

**LADY ANNE**

Dost grant me, hedgehog? then, God grant me too  
Thou mayst be damned for that wicked deed!  
O, he was gentle, mild, and virtuous!

**GLOUCESTER**

The fitter for the King of heaven, that hath him.

**LADY ANNE**

He is in heaven, where thou shalt never come.

**GLOUCESTER**

Let him thank me, that help to send him thither;  
For he was fitter for that place than earth.

**LADY ANNE**

And thou unfit for any place but hell.

**GLOUCESTER**

Yes, one place else, if you will hear me name it.

**LADY ANNE**

Some dungeon.

**GLOUCESTER**

Your bed-chamber.

**LADY ANNE**

I'll rest betide the chamber where thou liest!

**GLOUCESTER**

So will it, madam till I lie with you.

Complete the table below, including evidence from the scene.

	Evidence from the scene
Anne makes it clear that she hates Richard	“defused infection of a man”
Richard confesses his love for her	
Anne doesn't believe that he is being truthful	
Richard tries to manipulate Anne into marrying him	

Choose one or two pieces of evidence from the table to help you answer the question below, using **WHAT? HOW? WHY?** Answer the question in your exercise book.

How does Shakespeare present the relationship between Anne and Richard in this scene?

**WHAT?** In this scene, Shakespeare presents the relationship between Anne and Richard as...

**HOW?** This is shown when “...” The use of “...” highlights / suggests/ implies...

**WHY?** Shakespeare presents the relationship in this way, perhaps to... The audience would feel...

## Writing Task: Anne and Richard

**TASK ONE:** Imagine you are Anne after she has finished this conversation with Richard. Remember, he has just admitted to killing your husband – but has also asked you to marry him!

**Write Anne's diary entry straight after this scene. Aim for half a page. Try and use language from the scene.**

**Include:**

- How she feels towards Richard
- How she feels about her husband
- What she might want to happen to Richard

**TASK TWO:** Despite her utter hatred of Richard, Anne does eventually agree to marry him! Perhaps out of fear, or does he manipulate her so successfully?

**Write Richard's diary entry after Anne has agreed to marry him. His plan is starting to work, so he will be feeling very pleased with himself!**

**Include:**

- His true feelings towards Anne (does he really love her?)
- How he feels now that she has agreed to marry him
- What he plans to do next

## Week Five – Richard and the Princes

Before this scene, Richard has ordered the execution of his brother George, Duke of Clarence. His older brother and current king, Edward (King Edward IV) has also died from ill health. Richard now only has two people to get rid of before he can become king: his two nephews, Edward and Richard.

In this extract from Act 3, Scene 1, Prince Edward has arrived in London to claim the throne, following his father's death. As his uncle, Richard has become his Lord Protector.

### EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES

Say, uncle Gloucester, if our brother come,  
Where shall we **sojourn** till our coronation?

### RICHARD, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER

Where it seems best unto your royal self.  
If I may **counsel** you, some day or two  
Your Highness shall **repose** you at the Tower;  
Then where you please, and shall be thought most fit  
For your best health and recreation.

### EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES

I do not like the Tower, of any place.

### RICHARD, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER

*Aside:* So wise so young, they say do never live long.

### EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES

What say you, uncle?

**Sojourn – stay**

**Counsel – offer advice**

**Repose – rest**

Later on in the scene, Edward is joined by his younger brother Richard.

**RICHARD, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER**

Myself and my good cousin Buckingham  
Will to your mother, to **entreat** of her  
To meet you at the Tower and welcome you.

**RICHARD, DUKE OF YORK**

What, will you go unto the Tower, my lord?

**EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES**

My Lord Protector needs will have it so.

**RICHARD, DUKE OF YORK**

I shall not sleep in quiet at the Tower.

**RICHARD, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER**

Why, what should you fear?

**RICHARD, DUKE OF YORK**

Marry, my uncle Clarence' angry ghost.  
My grandma told me he was murd'ed there.

**EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES**

I fear no uncles dead.

**RICHARD, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER**

Nor none that live, I hope.

**EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES**

And if they live, I hope I need not fear.  
But come, my lord; with a heavy heart,  
Thinking on them, go I unto the Tower.

**Entreat - ask**

After reading the scene, answer the following questions in detail.

1) Where does Richard want Edward and his brother to stay while in London?
2) What reason does Richard give for sending the two brothers to the tower?
3) How does Prince Edward feel about the Tower?
4) Look at Richard's aside: "So wise so young, they say do never live long." What does he mean by this? Why do you think he uses an aside?
5) What is Richard, Duke of York, scared of in the Tower?
6) Are the princes happy about going to the Tower? Find a piece of evidence that supports your answer.

### **Reading Task: Richard and the Princes**

Using evidence from both scenes, you are going to write as either Prince Edward or his brother, Richard. Write down how you feel about going to stay in the Tower of London. Aim for at least a paragraph. Use the sentence starters to help you:

*When my uncle told my brother and I we would have to stay in the Tower of London, I felt... because...*

*I am worried about...*

*Can I trust my uncle?*

*I must obey as...*

## Writing Task: The Princes in the Tower

Even though Richard is pretending to be a caring uncle, in reality he wants to lock the two young princes up in the Tower of London and then have them killed.

Using the picture below, produce a piece of creative writing inspired by the two princes locked in the tower.



It could be:

- A diary entry as one of the princes, exploring how you're feeling on your first night in the tower
- A description of the princes and the room they are in
- A scene from a story about their imprisonment
- A speech made by Richard after locking the princes up in the tower

Aim for at least half a page of writing.

Check your sentences carefully and make sure you are using a range of vocabulary and varied paragraphs.

## Week Six: Richard's Plotting

After successfully locking up the princes in the Tower of London, Richard starts a rumour that they are not really Edward IV's children (they are illegitimate). Therefore, their claim to the throne is no longer valid. Richard is crowned King Richard III. However, he is still desperate to consolidate his power...

Read Richard's speech from Act 4, Scene 2 and then complete the activities underneath. At first, he is talking to one of his supporters, Catesby, before he is left alone.

### RICHARD III

Rumour it abroad

That Anne, my wife, is sick and like to die:

I will take order for her keeping close.

Inquire me out some mean-born gentleman,

5           Whom I will marry straight to Clarence' daughter:

The boy is foolish, and I fear not him.

Look, how thou dream'st! I say again, give out

That Anne my wife is sick and like to die:

About it; for it stands me much upon,

10          To stop all hopes whose growth may damage me.

### *EXIT CATESBY*

I must be married to my brother's daughter,

Or else my kingdom stands on **brittle** glass.

Murder her brothers, and then marry her!

Uncertain way of gain! But I am in

15           So far in blood that sin will pluck on sin:

Tear-falling pity dwells not in this eye.

**Brittle – easily broken and fragile**

Find a piece of evidence from this speech to support the following points:

<b>Richard no longer wants to be married to Anne</b>	
<b>He doesn't feel in a strong position</b>	
<b>He will do anything to consolidate his power</b>	
<b>He doesn't feel remorseful (sorry) for what he has done</b>	

### Language Analysis

Watch the presentation on Insight which focuses on the language used in this speech. Add annotations to the evidence below:

**“I am so far in blood that sin will pluck on sin”**

Choose two more pieces of evidence from the scene and annotate them in detail in your exercise books.

**How is Richard III presented in Act 4, Scene 2?**

**Answer this question in detail in your exercise books, aiming for at least one WHAT? HOW? WHY? paragraph.**

**In this scene, Richard is presented as...**

**This is shown by "..."**

**The use of \_\_\_\_\_ in "..."** suggests...

**This could also imply...**

**The audience would feel...**

**Shakespeare may have presented him in this way due to...**

### **Writing Task: The Earl of Richmond**

**Richard III needs to watch out: Henry, the Earl of Richmond, is on his way to England to claim the throne and kill Richard.**

**Imagine you are Henry. Write a persuasive speech telling the people of England why you should be king and not Richard.**

**Include the reasons why Richard is such a terrible king, including:**

- **His murder of his brother, George**
- **His imprisonment of his nephews, Edward and Richard**
- **His marriage to Anne, the widow of the man he killed in battle**
- **His arrogance and thirst for power**
- **His weakness as a king**

**You can also include all of the reasons why Henry would be a better king (you can make these up!)**

**Spend one hour planning and writing this. Aim for at least half a page of writing.**

## Week Seven – Richard’s Dream

Richard orders the murder of the two princes. However, he is becoming more and more unpopular, and many of his supporters leave him to join forces with Henry, Earl of Richmond. The night before his battle with Henry, Richard has a terrible dream where he is visited by the ghosts of all of the people he has had murdered.

### Act 5, Scene 3

Next to each line from the scene, write down which character said it (Anne, George of Clarence or the princes). What does it show about how they feel towards Richard?

Line	Which character said it?	How do they feel towards Richard?
“Poor Clarence, by thy guile betrayed to death! To-morrow in the battle think on me, And fall thy edgeless sword: despair, and die!”		
Dream on [us] smother'd in the Tower: Let us be led within thy bosom, Richard, And weigh thee down to ruin, shame, and death! Thy nephews' souls bid thee despair and die!		
Richard, thy wife, that wretched _____ thy wife, That never slept a quiet hour with thee, Now fills thy sleep with perturbations To-morrow in the battle think on me, And fall thy edgeless sword: despair, and die!		

You now need to listen to the presentation which helps you understand each of these speeches.

Choose one of the characters that Richard had killed and write a paragraph explaining in detail how they feel towards Richard.

I chose....

They would feel...towards Richard.

This is shown by: "..."

The use of \_\_\_\_\_ suggests....

The audience would feel...

### Writing Task: Richard's Dream

After waking up from his terrible dream, Richard decides to write down his thoughts and feelings.

Write Richard's diary from this evening, straight after the dream. Tomorrow, he will fight Henry, Earl of Richmond in a deadly battle for the throne.

Think about whether:

- Richard regrets what he is done to become king
- Richard feels guilty about killing his brother, nephews and wife
- Richard thinks he still deserves to be king
- Richard believes he can win in battle

## **Week Eight – The Ending**

**As we know, Henry, Earl of Richmond defeats Richard III in battle and becomes King Henry VII.**

**As a result of Shakespeare's play, Richard III goes down in history as one of the most evil kings in English history! But the story doesn't end there...**

**Choose at least two of the suggestions in the further reading and watching section, and complete one of the writing tasks.**

### **Further Reading and Watching**

**Watch an alternative version of Richard III from Horrible History:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R6JczvS1PL4>

**Read an article from the Shakespeare Resource Centre about whether Richard III really was a villain: <http://www.bardweb.net/content/ac/richard3.html>**

**Richard III was famously played by Benedict Cumberbatch. You can read an interview with him here:**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/2nQBC6Jryyn25zCLxVgvtf2/in-his-own-words-why-benedict-cumberbatch-relishes-the-chance-to-wear-richard-iiis-crown>

**Watch Benedict Cumberbatch perform the opening speech to the play:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOp7\\_j0EEko](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOp7_j0EEko)

**Watch Ian McKellan perform the opening speech. How is it different?**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pjJEXkbeL-o&t=172s>

### **Writing Tasks**

- **Write Richard's final speech before he is killed in battle**
- **Write Henry's first speech as king following Richard's death**
- **Write an alternative version of the play, where Richard is the hero and Henry is the villain**
- **Write an alternative history of the play, where the princes don't die**
- **Re-write one of the scenes from the play in a different style – a poem, a description, a song, a section from a story**
- **Create a comic strip of at least 5 memorable moments of the play**